

Ambassador Remarks for PIF Iftar

MPR

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(As Prepared)

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Ramadan is a time for, prayer and reflection that is often focused on self-improvement. In a similar spirit of self-improvement, the United States and Senegal are working with other African countries under the Partnership for Illicit Finance to reflect on ways to improve our common efforts to combat illicit financing. I am pleased to welcome delegations that have gathered here this week to for the very first Partnership for Illicit Finance working group meeting.

I particularly want to commend the leadership of the Government of Senegal on this important initiative. We appreciate your hospitality and all of your efforts to organize the PIF working group meeting. Through this inaugural meeting, you have had an opportunity to share best practices and discuss practical challenges involved in combatting illicit finance. As we aim to organize a larger PIF meeting later this year, I hope that other countries will join this important initiative.

I want to thank all of you who travelled from abroad to attend this event, including the delegation from Burkina Faso. And also our own delegation led by Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Bisa Williams and Deputy Assistant Secretary of Treasury Eric Meyer. We are excited to have all of you here to launch this new initiative and look forward to working with all of you in the months ahead.

I would like to invite Deputy Assistant Secretary Williams to offer a few remarks and Deputy Assistant Secretary Meyer can follow.